

JACKSON COUNTY SENTINEL

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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

JACKSON COUNTY BOY WRITES FROM FRANCE

First of Our Boys to See Oversea Service.

The following letter from Wesley P. Flatt, the first Jackson county boy to see service in France, will be read with much interest by the Sentinel readers and his friends in the county.

He is the son of Isaac Flatt of the 12th district, and is the youngest of ten boys. He left home August 12, 1917, going to Ft. Oglethorpe, Ga., where he enlisted in the 128 Aero Supply Co., and was sent to Kelly Field, San Antonio, Tex. After remaining there a short time he was transferred to the 75th Aero Construction Squadron and sent to Garden City, Long Island, N. Y., where he remained until about Dec. 5, when he sailed for England, arriving in France several weeks later. His trip to France was uneventful.

Mr. Flatt is not only the first Jackson county boy to see service in France, but the first in his district to register and one of the first from the county to volunteer his service in defense of his country. Since arriving in France he has been promoted to Corporal and is line for higher ranks.

Somewhere in France,
March 10, 1918.

Dear Editor:

As I have been in France some time and haven't written to your paper yet, I will write just a few lines today.

I have neglected writing just because the things you would like to know, and what I would like to tell you, the censor would not let it pass. Not that I would be willing to tell anything that would be injurious at all, for I know a lot of the soldier boys in the states yet would be glad to see this war over, as for me I am getting along fine.

We were the first American soldiers to come to this town. We are in (—) a town of about — or — thousand in population. A very nice little town. We went about — miles from town and started our camp. We begin to build barracks that we might have a place to stay. We have barracks now that we are staying in, and they are complete except electric lights. The barracks are wired so we will have lights in a few days.

We will soon have water pipes running to the camp, then our bathing facilities will be better. Up to this time we have been going to town for our baths.

We came here first, but other soldiers have continued to come, until now when night comes and you look around where the men have worked, you can tell that something has been done.

I am working in the supply department that supply tools and material for this camp. We have a Lieut. (who is in charge of course) two Sergeants, and I that work in the same building. So you see that it's not so bad after all.

We are glad to say that our squadron raised the first American flag on this field.

Conditions are not as bad over here as you would think, after war has been going on as long as it has. We can go to town and buy most anything we want.

Shall We Plant Irish Potatoes This Year.

There is a general impression throughout the State that the potato acreage will be greatly reduced this year because farmers are not satisfied with the prices paid for last year's crop.

It would be a mistake to decrease the acreage, and a blunder. If this combination of errors is to be made, it is hoped that Tennessee farmers will not be the ones to make it. It will be a mistake because the country will need all the potatoes we can grow and it will be a blunder because it is an accepted fact that the men who plant the crops in a year following unsatisfactory prices is the man who gets substantial rewards for his good judgement.

But were prices low? A White county farmer grew 800 bushels of Irish potatoes on a measured acre last year at a cost of \$75. He kept careful account of all expenses and is sure of his figures. At digging time he was offered \$1.25 a bushel for his crop. But he chose to store his potatoes in the hope of higher prices during the winter. He speculated. Chicago grain operators are not the only speculators in the country. Men speculate on wheat and cotton and in potatoes.

His judgment did not prove sound. This spring he was offered 90 cents a bushel.

Is he justified in refusing to plant potatoes this year? At ninety cents he will make a net profit of \$195 on his acre, and what a smile he would have smiled at such an opportunity for money making before the war.

He is not the sort of farmer to think more of the thirty-five cents a bushel that he lost by not selling at digging time, than of the profit his crop brings him at present prices.

A whole lot of farmers expected to get as much per bushel for their crop as they paid for seed potatoes, and this was an unreasonable expectation. Potatoes were a profitable crop last year at seventy-five cents a bushel. The season was favorable and the yield averaged high.

But the dissatisfaction is general, and many a man will reduce his acreage. That is why you should plant.

Another reason, and a better one, is because the country will need a large crop of potatoes next year. The yield of wheat promises to be big, but the war demand for wheat will be so great that we must use wheat substitutes in increasing amounts and the potato is one of the best.

Patriotism and profit both urge the farmer to increase rather than decrease his potato acreage.

We are alright as long as we can do that. I guess that I had better stop and try the censor on this much this time.

We had a speaking last night at the Y. M. C. A. by Dr. Vandike, of Princeton University and Senator Leroy, of Mississippi, who is a member of the War Work Council of the Y. M. C. A. They both delivered good talks to the boys. Dr. Vandike will preach to night at the Y.

I will close by asking all the boys to write the paper.

Cpt. Wesley P. Flatt.
487 Aero Const., Squadron,
A. E. F. Via N. Y.

"No Meatless And Wheatless Days For Me."

She was a good woman and she talked much about how good the Lord has been to her and to her children. But at the same time she said: "No meatless and wheatless days for me! I've got wheat enough and I've got meat enough laid up in my pantry, and my children like it, and they are going to have it as often as they want it, and as much of it as they want."

After hearing this well-meaning woman talk, the writer picked up that night a European paper that comes to this home and read this paragraph:

It is said that there is not a living child in Poland under eight years of age.

"Not a living child in Poland under eight years of age!" With little bodies unable to endure the hardships and starvation of a war-ravaged land, they have died by thousands and tens of thousands. Thousands and tens of thousands of mothers as good as good as the woman who made this thoughtless remark, mothers who loved her children as much as this mother loved hers—they with heart-breaking helplessness have seen their children slowly starve before their eyes, while American mothers say, "No I will not even vary my diet in a harmless way, I will not even make substitutions to save meat and wheat, in order that it may save the lives of starving babies and little ones in Europe."

"No, we don't mean that any American mother is saying this in words. Certainly the good woman of whom we write would not have said it or thought it, and yet by her acts, that was what she was saying. If some one could have shown her a photograph of one starving Polish child, with wan, pinched face and hollow eyes, crying to its mother for bread she did not have—oh, how quickly this American mother would have said: 'Yes, I have plenty of wheat and I have plenty of meat, and I'll gladly divide my last crust to save the lives of little ones like that.' With such a picture before her eyes, how quickly would this American mother have called to mind the Last Judgment's awful curse on all the uncaring and hard of heart. 'I was un-hungered and ye gave me no meat.'"

But she didn't know. And thus again the Lord she tried to worship might lament as of old over His people, "Israel doth not know! my people doth not consider!" To this good woman the Hoover rules for meatless and wheatless days were simple Government regulations—simply official red tape. She didn't know they were meant to save the lives of little ones as fair, as merry as bright-eyed, as love-inspiring as her own dear boys and girls.

Are you encouraging the children to be thrifty? They will be most enthusiastic savers if started in the right way and given proper encouragement. Try it. Let them have a few quarters to invest in Thrift Stamps occasionally.

Leave your orders for early Tomato Plants at the post office. I have a fine lot of plants which will be ready as soon as the weather will permit setting in the open. Varieties: Boney Best and Maule's Earliest of all.

F. L. Tardy.

BAN ON HENS RAISED AFTER FRIDAY, APR. 19

Farmers Urged To Not Rush Hens To Market.

A telegram received from the United States Food Administration at Washington states:

"Rule 14 prohibiting licensed dealers from dealing in live or freshly killed hens between February 11 and April 30, has been amended to end at midnight April 19.

This means that purchases of live or freshly killed hens may be made from farmers or other producers commencing Saturday morning, April 20 and not before that date.

The changing of this date from April 30 to April 20 is in accordance with the policy of the Food Administration to abolish all prohibitory orders as soon as their purpose has been accomplished.

The egg supply of the country is now on a normal basis and the Food Administration desires to express its appreciation of the patriotic spirit with which this order has been received and obeyed by the producers and dealers in Tennessee. It is believed that the money received from the extra eggs produced has resulted in increased profits to producers.

The Food Administration further believes it will be unwise for farmers to rush their hens to market as it will cause market gluts and demoralize prices.

Hens that have stopped laying should be sold first. Careful culling of the flocks and the keeping of those hens that are laying will be a profitable practice.

H. A. Morgan.

Federal Food Administrator for Tennessee.

Oilfields, Cal.

As I haven't seen any news from this part of the world, thought I would write a few items.

Glad I can say all the Jackson county boys have a good job and working every day. I have been here since February 7, and like it fine, but I have a wife and 2 babies back in old Jackson Co. that I like much better than I do the oilfields.

John Fuquay says if he ever gets back to the Free State he would never leave again.

Comer Chaffin says he would like to see old Roaring river, but 36 hundred miles was too far to walk.

Jesse Young left for home yesterday. He said Bessie looked better to him than gold and silver. Come on you Camp Gordon boys, I sure do like to read your good letters in the Sentinel.

Murn Murphy has quit work and bought him a kodak and gone to taking pictures of the scenery of California. He says if he ever gets enough ahead and a pair of Jack Rabbits ears he was coming back to old Tennessee.

Come on old Slicker Snake. If you could be here and crawl thru this hot sand a few days, your chills would sure be gone.

Hello, you Gainesboro boys, how are you getting along making money by this time.

Wake up Shortie Painter give us the news from the old country, and we would like to have you back with us again.

Luke Lynn how is Sugar creek. Hoping this will escape the waste basket I will ring off.

Comer Chaffin.

What Your Bond Purchase Will Accomplish.

The following figures give one a definite idea of what his or her loan to the Government by the purchase of Liberty Bonds will accomplish when used by the War Department:

One \$50 bond will buy trench knives for a rifle company, or 23 hand grenades, or 14 rifle grenades, or 37 cases of surgical instruments for enlisted men's belts, or 10 cases of surgical instruments for officers' belts.

A \$100 bond will clothe a soldier, or feed a soldier for eight months, or purchase 5 rifles or 30 rifle grenades, or 43 hand grenades, or 25 pounds of ether, or 145 hot-water bags, or 2,000 surgical needles.

A \$100 and a \$50 bond will clothe and equip an Infantry soldier for service overseas, or feed a soldier for a year.

Two \$100 bonds will purchase a horse or mule for Calvary, Artillery, or other service.

Three \$100 bonds will clothe a soldier and feed him for one year in France, or buy a motorcycle for a machine-gun company.

Four \$100 bonds will buy an X-ray outfit.

One \$500 bond will supply bicycles for the headquarters company of an Infantry regiment.

Seed Corn Needs Testing.

This is not idle gossip. Much seed corn in Jackson County will not grow this year. Tests made in the supply of seed corn on the farms of men who have been careful of their seed show fifty per cent poor seed. The same story is heard in practically every part of the State. We have had an unusual season. Corn went into the crib too sappy, cold weather was more severe, the germs in the kernels could not stand up under the strain and so many of them are no good for planting purposes.

Seed corn testing is simple work. Take a few kernels from each ear. Place those kernels in a square laid off in a shallow box filled with sawdust or sand. The rag doll method in which a towel or similar piece of cloth is used, will accomplish the work. One can test many ears at a time. If kernels grow under these conditions, one may be assured that in the field they will do well; if they do not grow, then there will be no waste of corn, land, time or money.

Plant only seed corn that will grow. You may know, if you want to, which corn will grow and which will not but not by looking at it. Test it.

It's the patriotic duty of every farmer in Jackson county to test their seed corn. Take no chances in having a poor corn crop. It is a big loss to you and the boys in the trenches. Corn will play a big part in winning the war.

The County Board of Education meets May the 25th, to let the schools of the county. The Advisory Boards are requested meet the 1st, or 2nd, Saturday in May, select teachers and send the recommendations to me or to a member of the county Board.

Most Respectfully,
W. L. Dixon, Co. Supt.

WANTED—A girl to do general house work, for a family of two. Light work, good wages. Would like one in as member of the family. Call or see D. A. Tyree, Defeated, Tenn., R. I.

APPEAL TO WOMEN TO BUY LIBERTY BONDS

Must Help Protect Their Homes From German Infamy.

The women of France are ploughing in the fields that the men of their Army may be fed. Will not the women of Jackson County lend money to their country that their own fighting men may be provided for?

The women of England, from the highest to the humblest, are toiling in munition factories to make guns and shells for their soldiers. Will not the women of Jackson County do that far easier thing of merely lending the money to buy the guns for equipping the Jackson County men?

The safety for which these women of other lands are striving was won for American women long ago by the swords of American men. To preserve this safety for you and your children Jackson County men are now marching to battle even as their forefathers marched. Will Jackson County women stand shoulder to shoulder with them? They are offering their lives as a gift. Will you offer your dollars as a loan?

To save your home from the flames destroying France, your babies from the sword that murdered infants in Poland, your daughters from the hordes that ravished Belgian women even as they fled through the streets, American men are making the supreme sacrifice. What sacrifice will you make to help equip these defenders of your country? What will you give up that you may help finance the struggle to save American freedom?

Not a gift, but a loan is asked of you. Not a free loan, but a loan at interest. Will you withhold your money while men offer their blood? Buy a Liberty Bond for your country's sake. Put it in your own name. Buy one for the daughter it may save. Buy one for the boy too small to fight.

When you buy a Liberty Bond you are not giving away your money. You are merely lending it to the United States Government. As long as it uses your money the Government will pay you interest. The Loan itself will be returned in the specified number of years. If you want it back sooner you can get it by selling your Bond. Safe places for savings are being sought in this hour of financial uncertainty. No vault in the world is as safe as Uncle Sam's promise to pay his debt to you.

Put your Savings into Bonds and Bonds may save your Savings for you.

Willie Steward who was raised by Mr. J. T. Draper a prominent farmer of the 14th District of our county and who went away 4 years ago was heard from the other day. He reports that he has been in training in the U. S. Army in the Philippines but is now in a hospital in San Francisco. Mr. Draper was exceedingly glad to hear from him, this being the first time he has heard from him in over 2 years. Mr. Steward reports he is getting along nicely and hopes to be out of the hospital soon. His many friends will no doubt be glad to hear from him again.